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BRANCH OFFICE, 142 KING-STREET.
LONDON OFFICE, 75 QUEEN VICTORIA STREET.

LITTER BOX SOX, GENERAL POST OFFICE, SYDNEY.

The Sydney Morning Herald.

TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 1897.

The new draft bill to constitute the Commonwealth of Australia was presented yesterday by Mr. Barton to the Federal Convention sitting at Adelaide for its consideration.

Four Turkish officers have been hurled by the frontier guard from Crete.

The Channel Squadron, which is now at Malta, are to remain during the Easter week.

It is stated by the Vienna correspondent of the Press that French Senators are submitting to Russia a plan for supplying the Porte with funds for the carrying out of reforms in the Empire.

Further particulars of the fighting on the frontier state that 3000 irregular Greek troops, equipped by the National League, armed with rifles and commanded by ex-officers of the Greek army, attempted to seize the passes between Macedonia and Epirus.

The Times special correspondent at Elisopolis reports on the irregular war with slight success at first, but were ultimately driven back to the frontier with the loss of 50 men.

It is declared by the Greeks that fighting continues on the frontier.

Battino, in Thessaly, is besieged by 800 Turks.

Premier Chamberlain has given the Greek Government an assurance that the Greek army are taking part in the fighting on the frontier. He says that it is impossible for the Greek Government to restrain the forces of the National League.

The Porte has protested to the Powers against the action of Greece, and has denounced the Greeks as the aggressors, insisting that Greek regulars invaded Greece, they were repulsed.

It adds that the Turks are willing to retire from the frontier and from Crete when the Greeks withdraw.

It is stated by the Daily Chronicle that the Greek Government withdrew the Porte of the intention of the National League forces.

In speaking at a farewell banquet given in London to the newly-appointed Governor of Cape Colony and Her Majesty's High Commissioner in South Africa, Mr. Gomben said that the power of the Empire was behind Sir Alfred Milner.

He added that the sailors and the redoubt at Capetown were a guarantee that Great Britain would maintain her supremacy in South Africa.

It is stated by the Times that the Royal Geographical Society contemplates organising an expedition to the Antarctic, relying mainly on private aid to defray the cost.

The society will ask the First Lord of the Admiralty to grant a subsidy, in the event of the Admiralty being unable to spare men, officers, or ships for the undertaking.

In regard to the Japanese of the Hawaiian authorities in the Pacific Islands of 400 Japanese immigrants, the Japanese newspapers incite the Government to fire him.

Several men-of-war will be sent by the British and French Governments to New York to take part of the centenary landing of 400 Japanese immigrants, the Japanese newspapers incite the Government to fire him.

As the result of the action of the Sultan of Zanzibar in abolishing the legal status of slavery within his dominions, 160,000 slaves in Zanzibar have been set free.

The University of Edinburgh has conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Law upon the Lord Chief Justice of England.

It is reported that new rich alluvial gold discoveries have been made on the River Yukon, Alaska. A rush to the district has taken place.

The Tribune, a leading daily paper in Rome,

**IN NEW AND EFFECTIVE DRESSING,
AND ESPECIALLY CHOICE COLOURS,
FOR WINDOW DRAPES AND HANGINGS,
WITH TRIMMINGS DESIGNED TO MATCH.**

**FOR LATEST COLOURS
AND PATTERNS, SEE OUR BOOKS
IN COLOURS THAT WILL WASH WELL,
THOROUGHLY UP-TO-DATE AND ECONOMICAL.**

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107, WATERLOO, 26, GEORGE STREET.**

**AN BRANDY.
BOOMERANG BRAND.**

EDMUND LONDON, MARCH 22, 1897.
The London County Council has placed
it in THE SAME CATEGORY AS
"THE WHITE HORSE."

SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

**ING AND CO.,
MILBANE, AGEN.**

states that rich auriferous quartz has been dis-
covered in the Italian colony of Erythrae, on the
Red Sea.

The announcement, that the British Squadron
of the South African station was being ordered
to Inyang Island, Delagoa Bay, proves to be without
foundation.

The annual meeting of benefactors and sub-
scribers to the Spynie Hospital for Sick Children
at the Globe was held yesterday, Lady Hampden
presiding.

A fire was discovered yesterday morning in
the dress colliery, which has been idle for nearly a
month, and is now being worked, but has been caused
by spontaneous combustion. After considerable
effort the fire was subdued, and the mine put in
order for resumption of work.

The Minister for Works (Mr. J. H. Vane), ac-
companied by several members of Parliament, yester-
day proceeded from Northam to Wexham and
had a most cordial welcome. A deputation
asked for an extension of the railway to Wexham,
but Mr. Vane promised to give the matter
consideration.

Yesterday a deputation representing city and
country newspapers waited on the Attorney-
General to urge an amendment of the law re-
specting libel.

Mr. Went, in reply, promised that he would
introduce a bill which he hoped would satisfy
nearly everybody.

It is understood that the Queensland Parlia-
ment will meet on the 15th of June, to adopt a
congratulatory address to the Queen.

Yesterday the Stock Exchange of Melbourne
voted a sum of £100 towards the fund for the
prevention of infectious diseases, being in
commemoration of the Queen's record reign.

Business in investments in the Stock and Share
market yesterday was lively. Quotations were
favourable, and the Sydney and the London Stock
quitted at 12½. Other Government securities re-
maining as before.

There was some speculation in the Import
market yesterday in dried fruits, and a further
advance in breadstuffs. Other lines were rather
quiet.

At Darling Harbour yesterday 53 bales of wool
were manifested, 33 bales arrived coastwise, and 33
were received by rail at Newcastle or
Sydney.

Yesterday the Mining market was very dull,
North Broken and B.H. Junction, amongst silver
companies, and Berrharg and West Slaughter
amongst gold-mining ventures, but gold was scarce.
Other shares generally had a weaker tone.

The Customs revenue received yesterday
amounted to £1607.

Amongst the few subjects upon which
the speakers at the Convention exhibit a
marked unanimity of opinion is the
necessity of abolishing preferential
railway rates throughout the Common-
wealth. The question is one with respect
to which the two colonies whose railway
systems are isolated, Western Australia
and Tasmania, are themselves indifferent.
But the speakers generally are in favour of
a defender in the Convention, and every
opinion expressed on the subject is in
favour of its abolition. It has indeed
been asserted over and over again that
it is impossible to conceive a genuine
solidarity in which the system of railway
rates is operative, and which it was
was open to the colonies, after border pro-
tective duties had been got rid of, to re-
impose their equivalent in the shape of pre-
ferential railway ratings. No person who
has given any attention to the subject
will be disposed to question this conclu-
sion. The attempt of preferential railway
rates is quite as anti-federal in spirit and
quite as productive of intercolonial
irritation and sense of injustice as
the border duties themselves. It
belongs to a stage of intercolonial rivalry
and non-solidarity, of the former
necessarily disappear under federation.
Were we in a federated state to preserve
the hostile railway rates, we might as well
also retain the warring tariff systems.
In other words, we might as well remain
as we are and cease to talk of federation.

It evidently took the Convention some
little time to get its ideas on this matter
clearly defined, but when that was done
it was at once seen that no difference
of opinion existed on the subject.
The process of definition was materially
aided by the fact that the terms
"differential" and "preferential," by
means of which authorities on railway
management distinguish between the
legitimate and the illegitimate forms of
concession for distance. No person who has
looked into the subject argues in favour of
the concession of the goods over the two
distances alike. No one supposes that
the woolgrower who sends his bales 500
miles by rail should be asked to pay five
times as much as the man who sends them
only 100 miles. The mileage haul is
only one element of the work done in the
conveyance of the goods over the two
distances. In the allied institution of
the post-office the distance the letter is
carried is regarded as so unimpor-
tant a part of the expense of
conveyance and delivery that no difference
of charge is made in these colonies
over long and short distances, or 30 miles or
3000. There are many material reasons
which prevent railway services from
adopting in more than a very small de-
gree this system of disregarding distance.
What every railway system does is to
adopt a method of reducing freight
charges in proportion to the distance on the ground
that the service has less proportionate
handling and labour over the long dis-
tance than over the short. Other business
reasons combine with this, and tend in
the same direction. It is hardly neces-
sary to enumerate these reasons, inasmuch
as in all colonies there is a special
reason operating in the same way which
dominates the situation. The State, which
is the proprietor of the railways, is also
the ground landlord of the whole territory.
It is interested in drawing traffic to its
own, and the colonies have been interested
in working them as to make them
facilitate and assist the development of
the country and the occupation of the
land. It is manifest to all that so far as
differential rates are concerned,
discriminating in the mileage charged
over long and short distances, such a
system is not only legitimate, but that it
is indispensable.

Where the intercolonial difficulty comes
in, and where the need arises for federal
control in some form or other, where the
rates are not based on differential but pre-
ferential, and where concessions are made

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FEDERAL CONVENTION

FEDERAL CONVENTION.

CHIEF CLAUSES OF THE NEW
BILL.

CONSTITUTION AND POWERS OF
THE SENATE.

**TEXT OF THE FINANCIAL
PROVISIONS.**

(FROM OUR SPECIAL REPORTERS.)

— ADELAIDE, Monday.

The new draft bill to constitute the Commonwealth of Australia was brought up to-day, and presented to the Convention by Mr. Barton on behalf of the Drafting Committee. The bill of 1891 has been taken as a base, and practically the whole of the machinery clauses are identical with those of the measure, and in framing the clauses embodying the alterations made by the Constitution Committee, the Judiciary Committee, the members of the Drafting Committee have followed the instructions very closely. There is consequently nothing in the

which is absolutely novel. Mr. Marton, in the Convention this afternoon, gave a full outline of the various provisions in the bill, and there were several questions asked, the text of the answers dealing with the powers of the Senate, Finance, and the powers of the Federal Parliament is given below. It is noteworthy that in the preamble the word "indivisible" has been inserted before the words "Federal Commonwealth." This word did not appear in the bill of 1901. The text of the bill for 1906 has been substituted throughout the Bill for 1901.

CONSTITUTION OF THE SENATE.

Clause 9 to 14, chapter 1, part 2, provide that the Senate shall be composed of six members, two for each State directly chosen by the people of the

State as one electorato for a term of six years. That the Parliament shall have power from time to time to alter the number of electors, and to alter the number of members of the State, but so that the equal representation of the several federal States shall be maintained, and that no State shall have less than six members. That the members of the Parliament shall be chosen by the State Assembly, and shall be in such State as which is prescribed by this constitution or by the Parliament as the qualified electors of the State, and shall be chosen by ballot. As soon as practicable after the meeting of the State Assembly first next members chosen for the term of six years shall be divided by lot into two classes. The members of the first class shall be so divided as to be valued as to be valued at the expiration of the third year, a of the place of those at the second class the expiration of the second year. The term of service, so that one-half may be chosen every third year. If the place of a member of the States Assembly becomes vacant, the Governor of the State may fill the vacancy. The House of Parliament of the State be represented

The House of Representatives is to be composed of members chosen by the people of each State, according to their respective numbers, nearly as practicable. There are to be two members from each State, except where the number of members of the House of Representatives is less than the number of States, in which case each State shall have one member. Each State shall have no more than one member for each quota of its people. The quotas shall be determined by dividing the population of the Commonwealth by the latest statistics by twice the number of members of the House of Representatives, and the number of members of the House of Representatives shall be determined by dividing the population of the State as shown by the latest statistics by twice the number of members of the House of Representatives.

each of the existing colonies shall be entitled to elect one representative at least until Parliament otherwise provides. The qualification for election to the House of Representatives shall be in accordance with the law of the State to which is prescribed by the law of the State as the qualification for election to the House of Representatives of the State, but in choosing such members such electors shall have only one vote until Parliament otherwise provides. The House of Representatives shall be as follows:—(1) There shall be not less than 20 members of the full age of 21 years, and not more than 120, to be chosen by an elector entitled to vote in some State or Territory, or by a native-born subject, or a person qualified to become such elector, or must have been for three years at the least resident in the State or Territory in which he must be either an Australian-born subject of the Queen or a naturalised subject of the Queen.

Article 50 says the Parliament shall, subject to the approval of the Council, have full powers and authority to make laws for the peace, order and good government of the Commonwealth with respect to all or any of the matters following, that is to say—

The regulation of trade and commerce with other countries and among the several States.

Customs and excise and duties, save so that duties of excise on goods produced wholly or partly in the Commonwealth and duties of excise and bounties shall be uniform throughout the Commonwealth, and that no tax or duty shall be imposed on goods imported from any foreign country or on goods obtained by any other mode or system of taxation, but so that all such taxation shall remain throughout the Commonwealth uniform.

Borrowing money on the public credit of the Commonwealth.

Postal and telegraphic services.

The control and management of the Commonwealth and the several states, and the calling out the forces to execute and maintain the laws of the Commonwealth.

- Maneuvers of war.
- Navigations and shipping.
- Ocean buoys and buoys and ocean lighthouses and lightships.
- Astronomical and meteorological observations.
- Quarantines.
- Fisheries in Australian waters beyond territorial limits and rivers which flow through or in two or more States.
- Census and statistics.
- Currency, exchange, and legal tender.
- Banking, the incorporation of banks, and the issue of paper money.
- Insurance, including State insurance extending beyond the limits of the State concerned.
- Weights and measures.
- Bills of exchange and promissory notes.
- Bankruptcy and insolvency.
- Copyrights and patents of inventions, designs, and trade marks.
- Naturalization and aliens.

formed in any State or part of the Commonwealth.
Marriage and divorce.
Personal rights and the custody and guardianship of infants.
The service and execution throughout the Commonwealth of the civil and criminal process (judicial and non-judicial).
The recognition throughout the Commonwealth of the laws, the public acts and records, and the judicial proceedings of the States.
Immigration and emigration.
The influx of criminals.
External affairs and treaties.
The relations of the Commonwealth to the islands of the Pacific.
The control and regulation of navigable streams and their tributaries within the Commonwealth and an Act to amend the Navigation Act, 1912.
The control of railways with respect to transport for the military purposes of the Commonwealth.
Matters referred to the Parliament of the Commonwealth by the Governor-General.

The exercise within the Commonwealth, at the request or with the concurrence of the Parliament of the United Kingdom, or by the Federal Council of Australia, of any other powers vested by any legislative or executive authority in any person or persons, or in any department or office thereof.

MONEY BILLS.

The important subject of money bills is dealt with thus :—

Clause 62.—Proposed laws having for their main object the appropriation of any part of the public revenue, or the raising of any loan, shall not be valid unless they have been introduced in the House of Representatives.

Class 53-1. The States Assembly shall have equal power with the House of Representatives in all proposed legislation and in the appropriation of the necessary supplies for the ordinary annual services of the Government, which the States Assembly may reject, amend, or may not amend; but the States Assembly may not increase or impose a law in such a manner as to increase any proposed charge or burden on the people. 1. Law of taxation only. 4. The expenditure for services other than the ordinary annual services of the Government must not be authorized by the same laws as that which is authorized for the ordinary annual services. Appropriation of money for the ordinary annual services, but shall be authorized by a separate law or laws. 6. In the case of a proposed law which the States Assembly may reject, amend, or may not amend, it shall at any stage return it to the House of Representatives with a message requesting the omission or amendment of any clause or provisions therein, and the House of Representatives may accept or reject the same.

It, make such additions, or amendments, or any of them, with or without modifications.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

Chapter 4 deals with Finance and Trade. After providing for the establishment of a consolidated revenue fund, the recollections of the finance committee have been embodied in the bill as follows:—

“(1) The Government shall have full power and authority, subject to the provisions of this Constitution, to impose Customs duties and to impose duties of excise on goods for the time being brought upon the productions for the export of goods.

“(2) But this exclusive power shall not come into effect until uniform duties of Customs have been imposed by the Parliament.

“(3) Uniform duties of Customs shall be imposed within two years after the establishment of the Commonwealth.

“(4) Upon imposition of uniform duties of Customs

with foreign corporations and trade corporations had been studied, with the view of obtaining uniform regulations throughout the colonies.

LATE SHIPPING.

ADRIATIC.—Arrivals: April 12, *Acacia*, bark, from Rockhampton; *Opbis*, R.M.S., from Sydney. Departure: April 12, *Wellsea* (s.), for Melbourne.

Ladies, Ladies, Ladies.—Drink Fisher and Co.'s Famous "Kola Nut Tonic" with Lemonade, and thus its remarkable, almost miraculous, virtues can be enjoyed at a pleasant drink (unmistakable). All hotels, with lemonade, 5d per glass. —[Adv.]

Bicycles Wanted and for Sale

Funerals. **Bicycles Wanted and for Sale.**

THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 1897.

TWO L.E.T. two unfurnished ROOMS, one balcony, sun

THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 1897.

DEBUN—To LNU, 27 PM at 4 o'clock, kitchen, see LXXXV

THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 1897.

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